

Appl. No. 09/869,359

Art Unit 1751

December 29, 2003

Reply to Office Action of September 30, 2003

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

Specifically, the present invention relates to:

[1] a process for preparing particles for supporting a surfactant, comprising a step of giving a defect to a coating film containing a water-soluble component, wherein the coating film is formed on surfaces of raw material particles; and

[2] a process for preparing detergent particles comprising a step of mixing a surfactant composition and the particles for supporting a surfactant obtained by the process according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5,~~ the invention under conditions that the surfactant composition shows a liquid state.